

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
RECREATION CENTER  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2323)  
New York Road  
Plattsburgh  
Clinton County  
New York

HAER No. NY-326-BM

PHOTOGRAPHS

WRITTEN HISTORICAL AND DESCRIPTIVE DATA

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

National Park Service  
Northeast Region  
Philadelphia Support Office  
U.S. Custom House  
200 Chestnut Street  
Philadelphia, Pennsylvania 19106

HISTORIC AMERICAN ENGINEERING RECORD

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
RECREATION CENTER  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2323)

HAER No. NY-326-BM

**Location:** New York Road, Plattsburgh, Clinton County, New York.

UTM: 18.622940.4946420  
Quad: Plattsburgh, NY-VT, 1:24,000 (1966)

**Date of Construction:** 1956

**Architect/Engineer:** Unknown

**Present Owner:** United States Air Force

**Present Use:** Vacant

**Significance:** By providing a space for recreation and leisure-time activities, the Recreation Center enhanced life at the Plattsburgh Air Force Base (AFB) community.

**Project Information:** Building No. 2323 at Plattsburgh AFB is being documented in accordance with HAER standards to mitigate for the potential adverse effects of transferring deed of title to the property from federal ownership. The property transfer is a result of the disposal and reuse of Plattsburgh AFB, pursuant to the Defense Base Closure and Realignment Act of 1993. The mitigation is a stipulation of a Programmatic Agreement (PA) among the U.S. Air Force, the New York State Historic Preservation Officer, and the Advisory Council on Historic Preservation (October 2000).

Michael Pumphrey  
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### Summary Description of Recreation Center (Building No. 2323)

#### **Layout**

Building No. 2323 is a 21,447 square-foot, one-story, brick building with a flat roof having minimal overhangs. The building has an irregular footprint with three offsets. The main section of the building measures 252'-0" x 60'-0"; the offsets measure 60'-0" x 36'-0", 64'-0" x 48'-0", and 80'-0" x 11'-0". The building was built atop a poured concrete slab. Although not noted on the Real Property Accountable Record, some windows have been partially filled in with painted panels and smaller windows installed in the original opening. The interior of the building was not inspected.

#### **Alterations/Additions**

Other than the alterations to the original fenestration pattern, there has been no other additions or alterations to Building No. 2323.

#### **Function**

The building was originally named the Service Club. Building No. 2323 was designed, built, and used as a recreation and activity facility. Instructional classes, parties, small theatrical productions, arts and crafts and low-impact physical activities were held in the building.

#### **Significance**

The people who flew, maintained and supported the mission of Plattsburgh AFB during the Cold War contributed to America's most important military mission, nuclear deterrence as part of the strategic triad. They performed with sacrifice, dedication and excellence. It was this overall Strategic Air Command (SAC) mission that required large numbers of these military personnel and their dependents to live in close proximity to the critical base areas needing to be manned at a moment's notice. Accordingly, it was necessary that facilities be provided which could allow the airmen and their families to enjoy and otherwise make the most of their leisure time. The Air Force had invested heavily in their personnel, and it was in the nation's best interest that utmost attention was given to their morale and off-duty needs. For these reasons, then, facilities such as the Recreation Center played an important part in support of the larger SAC mission.

#### **Sources**

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PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
RECREATION CENTER  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2323)  
HAER No. NY-326-BM  
(Page 3)

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United States Air Force

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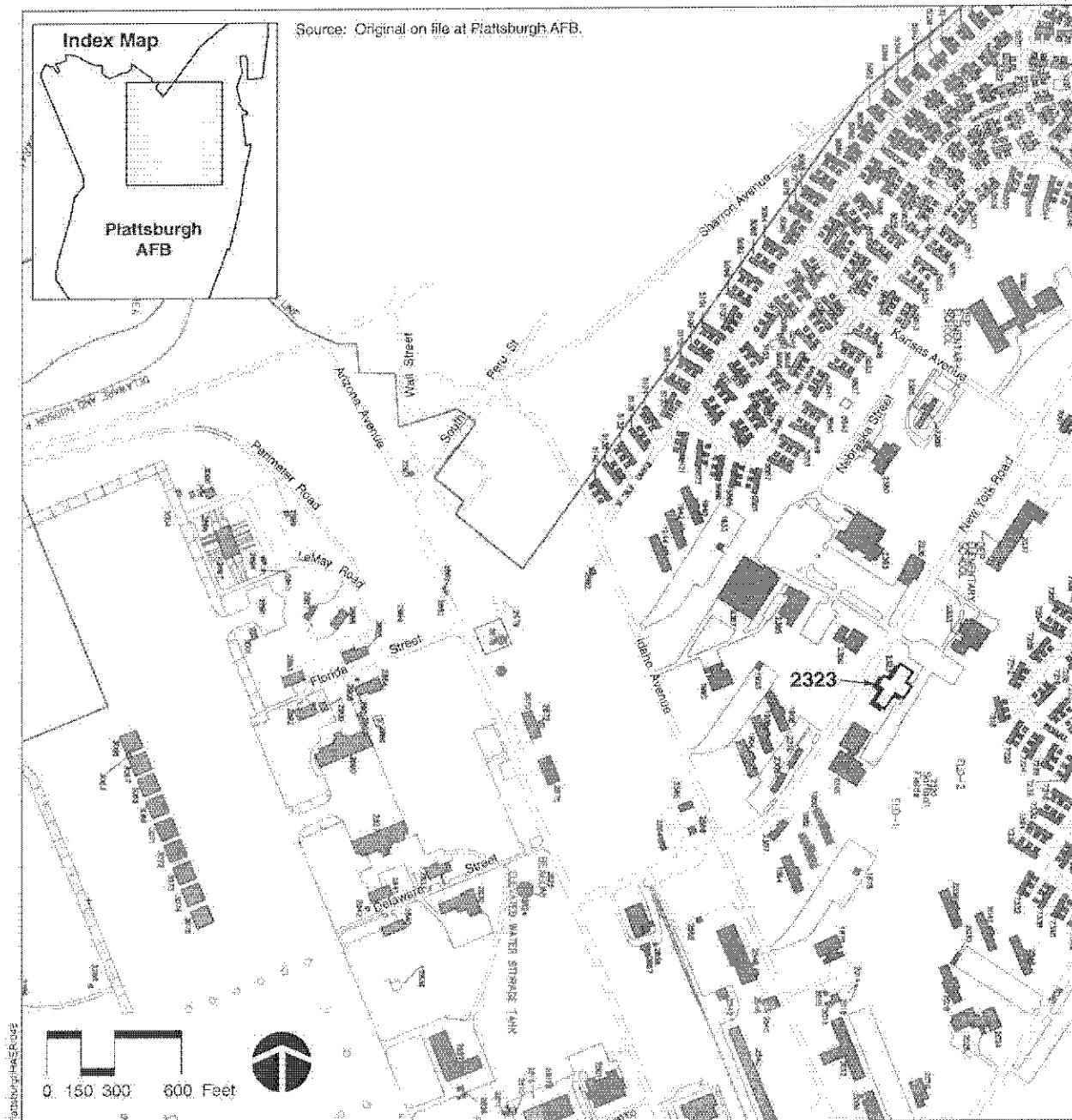
United States Air Force

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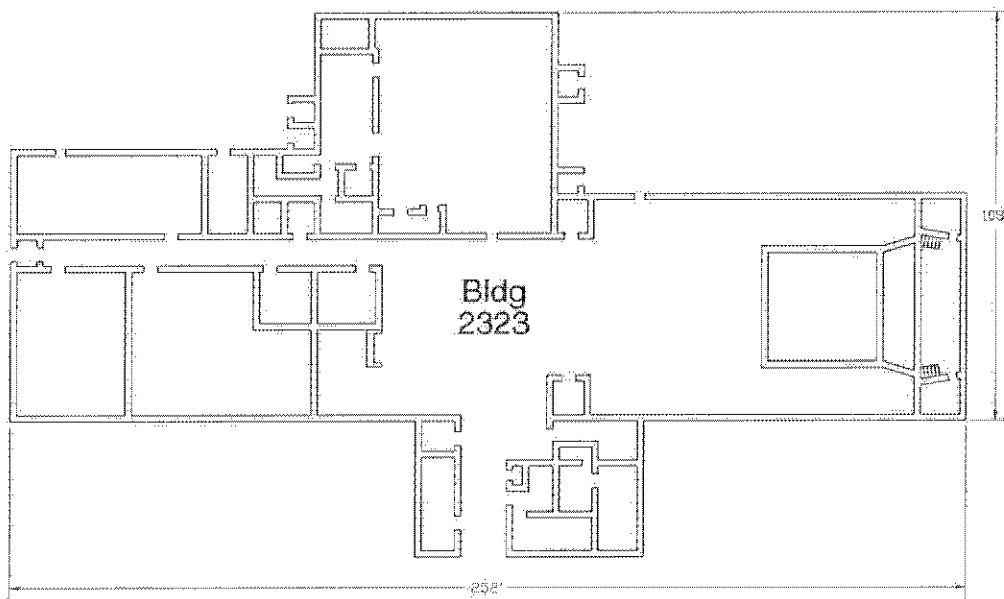
1998 *Draft Historic Building Inventory and Evaluation Plattsburgh Air Force Base New York,* Volumes I and II, June.

PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
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HAER No. NY-326-BM  
(Page 4)



Location Map for Recreation Center Building, Building No. 2323  
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PLATTSBURGH AIR FORCE BASE,  
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(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2323)  
HAER No. NY-326-BM  
(Page 5)



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Sketch not to Scale

SKETCH PLAN—SECURITY POLICE ENTRY CONTROL BUILDING  
(Plattsburgh Air Force Base, Building No. 2323)  
(Source: Plattsburgh AFB CAD File, Prepared by the United States Air Force, ca 2000)  
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